



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

226 Broadway
P.O. Box 585
Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845

620-273-6034 phone
620-273-6099 fax

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

For Immediate Release
Heather Brown, (620) 273-6034
June 22, 2011

Good Old-Fashioned 4th of July Activities at the Preserve




Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve announced today that special natural and cultural activities are scheduled for the July 4th holiday weekend.

On Saturday July 2nd, enjoy a day filled with historic children's games, wool spinning, music, and clogging in and around the historic barn. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. historic characters play live music and spin "yarns" and wool as they talk about their plans for the holiday celebration. Clogging demonstrations will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. with visitor participation encouraged. From 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., an abbreviated, yet rousing reading of the *Declaration of Independence* kicks off the afternoon events. Immediately following, visitors are highly encouraged to join the fun with historic children's games including rope jumping, a potato sack race, foot races, hoop and stick, tug-of-war, an egg and spoon race, an obstacle course, and a good old-fashioned egg-toss contest. Cold water and lemonade will be provided throughout the games.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



At 1 p.m. on Sunday July 3rd and Monday July 4th, make paper airplanes and learn all about flight dynamics with a 30-minute children's workshop and *Poets of the Air* birding program. Each workshop ends with a rousing paper airplane contest in the historic barn.

Also available on Sunday and Monday is a 90-minute prairie bus tour at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. The bus tour takes visitors 3.2 miles out to a prairie overlook for a 360-degree look at the prairie's intricate system of plants, animals, and the unique vistas found in the Flint Hills. Along the way, rangers and volunteers discuss the flora, fauna, and geology of the tallgrass prairie, American Indians, bison, and the legacy of ranching. A minimum of two passengers per bus tour is required. All activities at the preserve are free of charge.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway). All programs and activities are free of charge. For more information or to make group reservations, visit the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, or call the preserve at (620) 273-8494.

-NPS-